



**PUBLIC FORUM
NOTICE TO CALTRANS CONTRACTING COMMUNITY
and
INTERESTED PARTIES**

The California Department of Transportation (Department) is required by a recent Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling to consider amending its Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program goals for all federally funded projects. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision, Western States Paving Co., Inc. v. Washington Department of Transportation et al., has established new evidentiary standards necessary to constitutionally support the use of race-conscious DBE goals such as those currently used by the Department. The decision is binding on the states within its jurisdiction, including California.

The Department is hosting a public comment forum to allow the Department to consult with all contractors, minority, women's and general contractor groups, community organizations and other organizations, which could be expected to have information concerning the availability of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged businesses and the effect of discrimination on opportunities for the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE). In accordance with 49 CFR Part 26.45 (g), the Department invites maximum public participation and solicits comments, invites the submission of evidence and information that may support the use of mixed components of race-conscious and race-neutral measures to achieve the overall goal.

After consideration of comments received during the 45-day public comment period, the Department will determine whether it is able to continue with any level of race-conscious program this federal fiscal year or whether it is necessary to revise the goals to state the specified level of DBE participation will be achieved solely by race-neutral measures.

You are invited to attend the Department's Public Comment Forum; please come prepared. Your comments and submission of evidence are very important. The events will be held at the following locations:

DISTRICTS	DISTRICT CONTACTS	DATE & TIME	LOCATIONS
1- Eureka	Brenda Bowie brenda_bowie@dot.ca.gov (707) 441-5814	1/27/06 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.	Dept. of Transportation 1656 Union Street, Room 59 Eureka, CA 95501
2- Redding	Kim Newman kim_newman@dot.ca.gov (530) 229-0510	1/24/2006 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Dept. Of Transportation 4300 Caterpillar Road, Redding, CA 96003
4- Oakland	Ruby Louie betty_louie@dot.ca.gov (514) 286-5898	1/10/2006 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Dept. of Transportation 111 Grand Ave District 04 Auditorium Oakland, CA 94623
5- San Luis Obispo	Gillian McCallum gillian_mccallum@dot.ca.gov (805) 549-3037	1/26/2006 2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Atoll Business Center 1150 Laurel Lane, Manzanita Room San Luis Obispo, CA 93401



6- Fresno	Pam Gentleman pam_gentleman@dot.ca.gov (559) 445-6925	1/17/2006 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Dept. of Transportation Manchester Mall 2016 E. Shields Ste. 100 Fresno, CA 93726
7- Los Angeles	Norma Dorsey norma_dorsey@dot.ca.gov (213) 897-6107	1/23/06 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Dept. of Transportation 1st Floor Conference Room 100 South Main St. Los Angeles, CA 90012
8- San Bernardino	Vickie Griffin vickie_griffin@dot.ca.gov (909) 383-1937	1/13/2006 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Dept. of Transportation 655 W. 2nd Street Room 201 San Bernardino, CA 92401
9- Bishop	Denise Green denise_green@dot.ca.gov (760) 872-0752	TBD Time TBD	TBD
10- Stockton	Zelie Nogueira zelie_nogueira@dot.ca.gov (209) 948-3930	1/11/06 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	State Building 31 East Channel Stockton, CA 95202
11- San Diego	Nellie Richardson nellie_richardson@dot.ca.gov (858) 616-6507	1/24/2006 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Four Points Sheraton 8110 Aero Drive San Diego, CA 92123
12- Irvine	Nancy Mogote nancy_mogote@dot.ca.gov (949) 724-2021	1/25/2006 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	Dept. of Transportation 3347 Michelson Drive, Rm C1165 Irvine, CA 92612
Sacramento	Janice Salais janice_salais@dot.ca.gov (916) 324-0841	1/12/2006 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Dept. of Transportation Farmers Market III, 1 st Fl. 1801 30th Street Sacramento, CA 95816

With respect to proposed changes on the DBE participation percentages, the goal and its rationale are available. For a copy of the proposed goals and methodology, contact the Department at the toll free number (866) 810-6346 or (916) 324-8400 or by email: smallbusinessadvocate@dot.ca.gov.

The goal and its rationale are also available for inspection during normal business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Written comments are to be addressed to California Department of Transportation, Office of Civil Rights, 1823 14th Street, Sacramento, California 95814, Attention: DBE Program Manager. The Department will accept comments on the goal until 4:00 p.m. on February 3, 2006.

For updates on the Public Comment Forum dates and locations go to the following website, <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/bep/ucp.htm> or call the DBE Program Manager at (866) 810-6346.

Sincerely,

ANGEL CARRERA
DBE Program Manager